

Serial No. 09/844,919

6

Docket No. PD-201029A

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. In the Final Office Action dated October 19, 2005, claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the rejections.

Claims 1-8, 10, 12, and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Allport* (6,097,441). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 1 is directed to a system that includes among other things, a base station receiving said composite broadcast signal, grabbing frames from the composite broadcast signal and forming a wireless local area network, said base station rebroadcasting at least a portion of said composite signal as a rebroadcast signal using said wireless local area network. The plurality of user appliances is positioned within the local area network and receives the broadcast signal. Claim 1 has been amended to insert the word "area" after the word "local", and changed the word "with" to "within" in the second to last line. It is believed that these amendments merely clarify and provide antecedent basis for the claims.

The Examiner points to base station 75 receiving the composite broadcast signal and grabbing frames from the composite broadcast signal. Applicant agrees that some information is transmitted in a vertical blanking interval. However, the Examiner further states that a wireless local area network is set forth in the *Allport* reference. The Examiner points to wireless networking with remote unit 10 and Col. 10, lines 16-54. The Examiner points to Col. 12, lines 11-44, for the base station rebroadcasting at least a portion of the composite signals as a rebroadcast signal using the wireless local network. The Examiner then states that a plurality of user appliances is set forth with respect to the remote control 10 and Col. 5, lines 59-62.

First, it should be noted that Applicant performed a word search on the *Allport* reference. The word network shows up only three times in the document. The first time is in the references cited, the second time is in Col. 3, line 29, and the third time is in Col.

Serial No. 09/844,919

7

Docket No. PD-201029A

4, line 39. The Col. 3 reference is describing a data integration system and referring to a computer network. Col. 4 simply refers to a TV network. Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion in the *Allport* reference for a wireless local area network. Even though a direct communication link, albeit wireless, may be formed between the remote control 10 and the base station 75, no teaching or suggestion is provided for forming a wireless local area network. A wireless local area network is capable of being used with multiple user appliances. In a previous Office Action Claim 1 was modified to highlight this fact by reciting a plurality of user appliances rather than just one. Applicant can find no teaching that the base station forms a wireless local area network and rebroadcasts a portion of the composite signal as a rebroadcast signal using the wireless local area network. Again, the plurality of user appliances is positioned within the local area network and receives the rebroadcast signal. Although the remote control does receive the signal from the base station 75 in the *Allport* reference, no teaching or suggestion is provided for receiving the rebroadcast signal in the wireless local area network. Therefore, because each and every element of Claim 1 is not found in the *Allport* reference, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner for reconsideration of this rejection.

Claims 2-8, 10 and 12 are dependent from Claim 1 and are also believed to be allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

Claim 14 is another independent claim that describes a method for distributing electronic content. Claim 14 specifically recites "over-the-air broadcasting the digital electronic content through a wireless local area network and receiving the electronic content packages through a plurality of user appliances." Again, no teaching or suggestion is set forth in the *Allport* reference for a wireless local area network. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 14 is allowable for the same reasons set forth with respect to Claim 1 and the wireless local area network.

Claims 15-17 depend from Claim 1 and are also believed to be allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

Serial No. 09/844,919

8

Docket No. PD-201029A

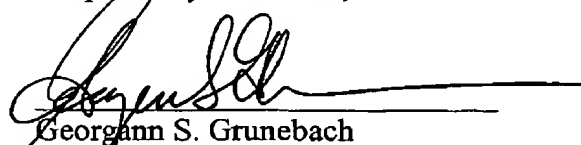
Claims 9, 11, 13, and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Allport*. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 9, 11 and 13 depend from Claim 1 and therefore further limit Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is missing at least the element of the wireless local area network and therefore, Claims 9, 11 and 13 should be allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

Independent Claim 18 includes the step of rebroadcasting the digital video stream using a wireless local area network. As mentioned above, Applicant respectfully submits that no wireless local area network is set forth in the *Allport* reference. Therefore, Claim 18 and dependent Claims 19-22 are believed to be allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

In light of the amendments and remarks above, Applicant submits that all rejections are now overcome. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Georgann S. Grunebach
Reg. No. 33,179
Attorney for Applicants

Date: December 7, 2005

The DIRECTV Group, Inc.
RE/R11/A109
2250 E. Imperial Highway
P. O. Box 956
El Segundo, CA 90245-0956

Telephone: (310) 964-4615